Butterfly Fact Hunt

Use sources to answer a focused question.

3.T.RA.1 "Research & Inquiry: Conduct research to ask and answer questions that clarify, deepen, and extend understanding of a topic of interest using credible sources and communicating relevant and accurate information."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline Maya's research question, circle the two sources she used, and in the first two paragraphs number the two facts she used in her report.

Why Milkweed Matters

1. When Maya noticed fewer butterflies near her school garden, she made a research question: Why do monarch butterflies need milkweed? She did not guess. First, she looked at a book from the public library about insects. The book said monarch caterpillars eat milkweed leaves. Maya wrote the book title and page number in her notes so she could check the information later.

2. Next, Maya used a webpage from the National Park Service, a United States government agency. The page explained that adult monarchs lay eggs on milkweed plants. When the eggs hatch, the caterpillars have the food they need nearby. Maya compared this idea with her library book. Both sources gave information about milkweed, so Maya felt more sure that the information was accurate.

3. Maya answered her question in a short report. She wrote, "Monarchs need milkweed because their caterpillars eat its leaves, and adults lay eggs on the plants." Then she listed her two sources. Her report included facts that answered her question, not extra facts about butterfly colors or wings. Careful researchers use reliable sources, compare information, and share only relevant facts.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. What question did Maya research?

2. What two sources did Maya use for her research?

3. What two facts helped Maya answer her question?

4. How did comparing the two sources help Maya?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a topic you wonder about. Write one research question, name two credible sources you used, and write two facts that answer your question. Include only facts that help answer the question.

ANSWER KEY

Butterfly Fact Hunt

GRADE 3 · 3.T.RA.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline Maya's research question, circle the two sources she used, and in the first two paragraphs number the two facts she used in her report. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What question did Maya research?	**Why do monarch butterflies need milkweed?**
2	What two sources did Maya use for her research?	**A public library book about insects and a National Park Service webpage.**
3	What two facts helped Maya answer her question?	**Monarch caterpillars eat milkweed leaves, and adult monarchs lay eggs on milkweed plants.**
4	How did comparing the two sources help Maya?	**Both sources gave information about milkweed, so she felt more sure the information was accurate.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Question: How do beavers make ponds? Sources: a National Park Service webpage about beavers and a library encyclopedia entry about beavers. Beavers build dams from branches, mud, and rocks. A dam can slow a stream and create a pond.

Accept accurate wording that identifies Maya's question, sources, supporting facts, and reason for comparing sources. For the open task, accept a focused question, two credible sources, and two accurate, relevant facts that answer the question.